



## **ORI 2000 - Oral Interpretation of Literature**

**Fall 2016**

**Instructor:** Matthew Bratko

**Email:** mbratko@ufl.edu

**Telephone:** (408) 504-9231

**Room:** MCCA 3194

**Section/Period:** 06F7 /M-W-F (3:00pm-3:50pm)

**Office:** McCarty Hall C 3rd Floor Room 306

**Office Hours:** Wednesday 1:50pm-2:50pm

### **Course Objectives:**

- To develop communication & performance skills through oral presentation of literature
- To provide you with a greater appreciation of quality literature & performance
- To develop awareness of yourself in various aspects, such as physically, vocally, mentally, and emotionally
- To develop your critical thinking and analytical skills in identifying what works and doesn't work in performance

### **The Fundamentals of Performance include the ability to:**

- Stand calmly and confidently
- Speak loudly and clearly enough to be easily understood
- Make eye contact with the audience
- Communicate thoughts and ideas with intention and purpose
- Utilize movement when natural

We will work towards building these fundamentals with a wide variety of tools, designed to develop your expressive potential in the reading of literature before an audience.

### **Course Content:**

- Students will participate in exercises during class that are designed to develop the major skills required for acting. Students will be expected to prepare outside of class for these exercises and their scene work.
- Students will perform a series of pieces for the instructor and the class. It is imperative that you work on these scenes outside of class to prepare them for presentation.
- Students will also prepare written analysis in order to strengthen their performances and allow them an opportunity to articulate what it is they are trying to demonstrate in their pieces. There will also be in-class workshops for each of the pieces prior to the performance. A final scene presentation will occur during the last week of classes.
- In addition, Students will be required to complete short writing assignments and complete quizzes on shows viewed and material covered.

### **Required Course Materials:**

- This Syllabus, ORI 2000 Fall, Course Outline( Provided by Teacher)
- TEXTBOOK - *Oral Interpretation* by Timothy Gura and Charlotte Lee (11th Edition ) (Available at UF Bookstore)
- Readings will be provided for you by the instructor on all aspects of performance techniques which you will be required to read and discuss in class.
- Poems, narratives, monologues, stories, etc. collected by the student. Copies must be made. Library West has an extensive collection of literature including one-act and full length plays which can be searched for by title and/or playwright.
- 3-Ring Binder containing syllabus, class manual, handouts, presentation pieces, notes (notebook or loose-leaf paper) and any other material applicable to class.
- Appropriate writing utensils: pencils, pens, highlighters, etc.
- Access to internet, email and Canvas for class information, updates, grades, performance material.

## **Grading Breakdown:**

<b>Quizzes (3)</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Participation</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Performance Critiques (3)</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Prose Final Performance</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Prose Final Paperwork</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Drama Final Performance</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Drama Final Paperwork</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Poetry Final Performance</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Poetry Final Paperwork</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Pecha Kucha Final Presentation</b>	<b>10</b>

**Total:** **100 points.**

## **Attendance Policy:**

Attendance will be taken daily. Due to the nature of this course, attendance is MANDATORY.

You are allowed **two (2)** unexcused absences. If more than two absences occur, **3 points** will be deducted from your participation grade for each additional absence. There are NO MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS FOR UNEXCUSED ABSENCES including those that occur on workshop and/performance days. Absences in excess of **(5) absences** will result in a failing grade.

\* **Excused absences include:** religious holidays (student must notify the instructor at least one week prior to the absence); medical emergencies (accompanied by a doctor's note on letterhead); and mandatory school requirements (which must be approved by the instructor and a letter from the appropriate authority must be provided at least one week ahead of time). Failure to provide the appropriate documentation at least one week before an excused absence will result in an unexcused absence. Students with an excused absence must make up workshops or performances and turn in any missed assignments during the following class period.

\***Tardy Policy:** You are allowed to be tardy to **two (2)** class meetings without penalty. Upon your 3rd tardy, **2 points** will be deducted from your participation grade. Please note that it is your responsibility to notify the instructor after the class that you arrived late. If you come in late and the instructor is unaware, you will receive an absence for that day. If you arrive late, DO NOT come into the room while another student is performing – please be respectful!

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Students are responsible for satisfying all academic objectives as defined by the instructor. Absences count from the first class meeting.

In general, acceptable reasons for absence from or failure to participate in class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays, and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) must be excused. Other reasons also may be approved.

Students shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities covered in their absence. Students cannot participate in classes unless they are registered officially or approved to audit with evidence of having paid audit fees. The Office of the University Registrar provides official class rolls to instructors.

If a student does not participate in at least one of the first two class meetings of a course or laboratory in which they are registered, and he or she has not contacted the department to indicate his or her intent, the student can be dropped from the course. Students must not assume that they will be dropped, however. The department will notify students if they have been dropped from a course or laboratory.

The university recognizes the right of the individual professor to make attendance mandatory. After due warning, professors can prohibit further attendance and subsequently assign a failing grade for excessive absences.

**No late assignments will be accepted without an excused absence.** In the event of an excused absence, late assignments will be accepted no later than one class period after the date in which it was due. Assignments can be emailed if necessary. There are no make-up days for your workshop or final performances without an excused absence. In the event of an excused absence, workshop and final performances may be made up no later than the following class period. If you miss, you forfeit your points. You may not switch days with someone from another workshop (scene performances are negotiable). Please look at the calendar thoroughly.

**Dress Code:**

Dress appropriately and comfortably, wearing clothes and shoes that allow you to move with ease. On workshop days, dressing in sweats, t-shirts, comfortably fitting jeans, etc. are fine. On presentation days, the appropriate professional attire and/or costume is required.

**Performance Pieces:**

The method of how to select each piece will be discussed in class. The pieces you work on and present **MUST BE APPROVED BY THE INSTRUCTOR.**

**Required Viewing:**

You are required to attend 3 UF School of Theatre and Dance production listed below. You will be required to write a two-page critique of the acting (on one to three actors) to show you understand the concepts you have been learning. This is not a report. I will hand out guidelines for the paper before the show opens. The papers are due in class after the show closes (Please see the calendar). All students must arrive at least 10 minutes before the show begins. **DO NOT BE LATE.** Some shows do not allow late seating. **DO NOT TEXT** ever during the show. Ever. You will be given ticket vouchers for the UF shows. The cost to you will be \$2 for each show.

**UF Production Dates:**

**Stage Kiss**

September 2-25

Hippodrome Theatre

**Spring Awakening**

Oct 28-Nov 6

Constans Theatre

**The New Mrs. Tesman**

Sep 23-Oct 2

Black Box Theatre

**Extra Credit:**

The Instructor reserves the right to issue up to 2.5 points of extra credit assignments.

**Workshop Days:**

On Workshop Days, you *must* have the following:

- a. TWO copies of your scored script. One for you – one for the instructor.

b. Character Analysis

c. Preparation

**Performance Days:**

You will be assigned a day on which to perform your piece for the class. When you arrive, you *must* have the following prepared items:

- a. TWO copies of your final scored script/piece with any changes made. One for the student, one for the instructor.
- b. Display of thorough preparation and rehearsal. Workshop discussion and other suggestion from the instructor and class should be fully worked into the piece. Although memorization is not required, it is strongly encouraged that the student be highly familiar and comfortable with the material.

**Final Note:**

This syllabus is subject to change by the instructor, and *it is your responsibility* to make note of any changes discussed in class. Please feel free to approach me with any concerns you may have about this class.

**Class Conduct:**

When you are not working in front of the class, you must give your full attention to your fellow classmate who is working. There will be ZERO TOLERANCE of cell phone use (including texting), sleeping, eating, drinking, doing work for other classes, newspaper reading, or disruptive talking in this class. If you engage in any of these behaviors, you will be ejected by the instructor and counted as absent for the day.

NOTES MUST BE TAKEN BY HAND - no laptops, netbooks or tablet computers can be open once class has begun.

**Special Accommodations:**

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office (392-1261). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

**Academic Honesty:**

As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement:

“I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University.”

The instructors of this course fully support the intent of the above statement and will not tolerate academic dishonesty. We, the members of the University of Florida Community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student guidelines for ethical behavior can be found at: <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html>

The Student Conduct Code is available at

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide/>

**I have carefully read over the Fall 2016, ORI 2000 Syllabus. I AGREE to all the rules and regulations of the class as outlined in this syllabus. Please return this form to your instructor. This form serves as a contract between student and instructor.**

**PRINT NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**UF ID#** \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**UPDATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**UPDATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**UPDATE:** \_\_\_\_\_